



PRESS RELEASE
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For Immediate Release

May 19, 2005

ORLANDO MAN SENTENCED TO 22 YEARS FOR HEROIN OVERDOSE CASE

Orlando, Florida - U.S. District Judge Gregory A. Presnell yesterday sentenced Carlos Alvarez, age 35, of Orlando, to twenty-two years' imprisonment for distributing heroin to another person that resulted in serious bodily injury. Alvarez pleaded guilty to the charge on February 25, 2005.

According to documents filed with the Court, on August 22, 2002, a 25-year-old female bought a \$20 bag of heroin from the defendant CARLOS ALVAREZ near a motel on East Colonial Avenue in Orlando. The woman went into the restroom of a nearby convenience store, where she prepared the heroin and injected it into her body. The woman left the restroom, walked around the store, then collapsed in the parking lot. The Orange County Fire and Rescue Department was called and paramedics were dispatched to the scene. The paramedics found the victim unresponsive and not breathing. The paramedics ventilated the victim and started an IV line, administering NARCAN which started her breathing and she became conscious. The victim reported to the paramedics

that she had used heroin. The victim was transported via ambulance to the nearest hospital, where she also reported her heroin use to the attending physician.

According to Dr. Jan Garavaglia, M.D., the Chief Medical Examiner for Orange and Osceola Counties, who reviewed the medical records of this incident, the victim suffered respiratory arrest as the result of using the heroin and she would have died within minutes if she had not received the NARCAN from the paramedics.

The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Bruce S. Ambrose.